



CABLE FRANCHISE LEGISLATION:

Talking Points: HB 5895 & SB 1157

- **LOCAL CONTROL ELIMINATED:** Eliminates local cable franchising, and requires Secretary of State to grant a statewide franchise. This creates a huge state bureaucracy.
- **LOCAL COMMUNITIES ARE NOT A BARRIER TO AT&T:** AT&T is blaming local communities as the reason they can't enter into the cable business. While every local community, and local residents, wants more cable competition and would quickly allow AT&T into their community, AT&T has refused to negotiate a franchise with ANY city, village, or township.
- **LOCAL RESIDENTS WILL LOSE CURRENT CABLE SERVICE:** Allows any cable, or video provider, to stop serving ANY area in a city, village, or townships based on out-of-state corporate economic decisions. Current law guarantees service to ALL local residents. We will have communities where cable and phone companies will turn off service to neighborhoods because they are not profitable, basically 'cherry-picking' and 'redlining' neighborhoods.
- **NO 'BUILD OUT' REQUIREMENT GUARANTEES DISCRIMINATION:** Current law guarantees build-out requirements. AT&T is refusing to negotiate with local communities so they can change the state law to allow them to discriminate against low-value residents. AT&T told their investors that they were going to serve 90% of high-value residents, and only up to 5% of low-value residents, which are generally senior citizens, low/medium income families, minorities, and rural residents.
- **LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GUARANTEES SQUASHED:** Business owners, developers, and residents view broadband access as an essential service. Cable service is one of the primary methods of getting broadband. The local franchise process guarantees access to ALL residents and businesses with their boundaries. AT&T wants to eliminate any economic development certainty in communities negotiating this service.
- **COMMUNITY REVENUES SLASHED:** Franchise fees will drop 30% immediately, however, when current franchise agreement is terminated they will be eliminated. This is a \$100 million cut to local governments.
- **PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNELS:** Public channels (PEG) to schools, city, village, and universities are virtually eliminated due to new barriers..
- **RIGHT-OF-WAYS MANAGEMENT IN JEOPARDY:** Bills are void of any right-of-way management obligations.